

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN INR-10

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INR/ RES - RHBARAZ

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EA/ VN - LBASKEW

EUR/ EE - JABAKER, JR.

EUR/ CAN - DRTHOMSON

EA/ IMS - JCHEAVNER

EA/ PRCM - RWSULLIVAN

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P 272211 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

S E C R E T STATE 080043

E. O. 11652: XGDS 2

TAGS: MASS, PINR

SUBJECT: SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO NORTH VIETNAM
(C- ER-3-57270)

1. WITH THE PROSPECTS OF A BREZHNEV VISIT TO THE U. S.,
PERHAPS IN JUNE, WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE NOW ENDEAVORING TO
ASSESS THE CURRENT STATUS OF SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENT TO NORTH
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VIETNAM. WHILE IT IS REALIZED THAT COLLECTION RESOURCES

AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY FOR THIS TYPE OF DATA MAY BE VERY LIMITED, THE DEPT WOULD, NEVERTHELESS, APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION, ESTIMATES AND/ OR INSIGHTS THE POST MIGHT BE ABLE TO OFFER AT THIS TIME.

2. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY WASHINGTON ANALYSTS.

A. HAS THE SOVIET UNION REDUCED OR INCREASED MILITARY AID TO NORTH VIETNAM SINCE JANUARY 28, 1973?

B. WHAT IS THE CURRENT LEVEL OF SUCH ASSISTANCE EXPRESSED IN EITHER MONETARY OR PHYSICAL TERMS OR BOTH?

C. WHAT TYPES OF EQUIPMENT ARE THE SOVIETS PROVIDING?

D. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF AID NEGOTIATIONS?

E. HOW DOES CURRENT SOVIET AND THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AID TO NORTH VIETNAM COMPARE?

3. INFORMATION IS NEEDED HERE NOT LATER THAN JUNE 1.

4. IN RESPONSE CITE C- ER-3-57270.

ROGERS

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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TAGS: MASS, PINR
To: BUDAPEST
HONG KONG
JAKARTA
MOSCOW
OTTAWA
SAIGON
WARSAW

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